

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 19, 2008

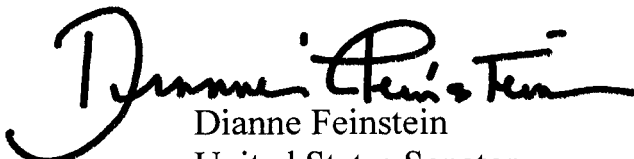
Ambassador Daithi O'Ceallaigh
Distinguished Diplomats,
Distinguished Members of Civil Society,

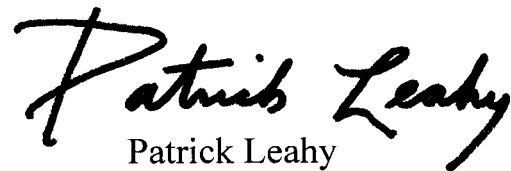
As the authors of legislation before the United States Senate that would prohibit the use and export of cluster munitions that cause unacceptable harm to civilians, we offer our support and encouragement to these negotiations. Although the U.S. Government has chosen not to participate in the "Oslo Process", we want you to know that there is support within the United States Congress, and among the American people, for your efforts.

Our legislation has been cosponsored by nearly one-quarter of the members of the Senate, representing tens of millions of Americans. And last year, at our initiative, the President signed into law a prohibition on exports of cluster munitions that have a failure rate of more than 1 percent.

We wish you success in crafting the strongest possible treaty to establish a new global norm governing the use, export and production of cluster munitions.

Sincerely,


Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator


Patrick Leahy
United States Senator